

Site: M: 26/10/56

Reiche Cottage / Stone House

720 West Montgomery Avenue

Built: 1887 Enlarged 1890 by Builder W.R. Pumphrey Private

Originally constructed as a front gable summer cottage with four rooms, this house was enlarged to an eleven room year-round residence three years later. W.R.Pumphrey, the second generation of a local family of carpenters/undertakers, added side jerkin-headed gables and a hipped roof over a two-story bay on the west.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. <sup>M</sup>26/10/56

Magi No. 1650725604

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic The Reiche Cottageand/or common The Stone House

## 2. Location

street & number 720 West Montgomery Avenue    not for publicationcity, town Rockville    vicinity of    congressional district 8state Maryland county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. Helen R. Stonestreet & number 720 West Montgomery Avenue telephone no.: (unlisted)city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery Co. Land Records 2507liber 2547street & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse 291folio 329city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Nonedate    federal    state    county    local   depository for survey records   city, town    state

## 7. Description

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### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Reiche house faces north on West Montgomery Avenue at the intersection of Adclare Road. It is sited at the northern end of the rectangular, block-long lot. A few chestnut trees are located on the property. Immediately south of the house is a two-car garage carport.

The house is representative of a late 19th-century vernacular house embellished with Victorian details such as decorative attic grill, lintels, and front center gable. Constructed in at least two different stages, the earlier structure probably consisted of the north I-house section; 2-1/2 stories, side-gabled, three bay, and one-room deep. The later section (1890) adds a rear gable wing and side-gable wing on the east. These additions give the house a square plan and an unusual amorphous configuration because of the projections, indentations and irregular rooflines.

A patterned-tin roof covers the house, except for a rear one-story lean-to which has a seamed tin roof. The foundation is part stone and brick. Asbestos shingles with scalloped lower borders sheathe the house and were added ca. 1950. A first floor three-room apartment also was added at this time. Most of the window have moulded lintels.

The three-bay north (front) facade is the only side with a symmetrical arrangement. A decorative attic grill and three 2-over-2 sash windows are in the second story under the steeply-pitched center gable. Single exterior doors are located in the first and third bays on the first story; a 2-over-2 window is located between them. A full-width one-story porch with square posts support the shingled shed roof.

The east facade has a jerkin-head gable at its center located above a rectangular second-story bay with shed roof that is cut away on the first story. The side gable of the earlier house is at the northeast corner and is highlighted by a return cornice.

The rear facade is three-bays wide with two exterior doors separated by a window. A large, single 2-over-1 window is on the second story. There is a one-story lean-to with fiberglass panel shed roof that extends approximately 3/4ths across the facade.

The west facade has a two-story bay with hipped roof near the southwest corner. Both 2-over-2 and 1-over-1 windows are regularly placed on this facade.

# 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) <u>LOCAL HISTORY</u>

Specific dates 1887; addition 1890 Builder/Architect W. R. Pumphrey, Builder

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Lying one mile west of the Courthouse, the Reiche Cottage illustrates the era of Rockville's identity as a summer resort. In 1887 this building was constructed as a small summer cottage, but was expanded to an eleven room, comfortable year-round residence three years later. It was the home of several affluent Rockville families in the next 50 years. Since 1959 it has been owned and occupied by the Stone family.

## History & Support

In the years following the untimely death (1881) of her young attorney husband, Mrs. Richard Williams sold several parcels of her farm lands lying west of her home and bordering the Darnestown Road.<sup>1/</sup> Rockville's reputation as a summer resort was growing, and various land speculators and investors were gambling on future growth to the west of town. John P. Mulfinger, son of the local grocer, purchased 29 acres at the extreme edge of the Williams farm, adjoining the old Wootton estate.<sup>2/</sup> In 1887 Ulysses Ricketts bought four of these acres from Mulfinger for \$452 and erected a summer cottage on a three-acre portion of this lot.<sup>3/</sup> It is presumed that this is one of the eleven cottages/residences being built in Rockville in the Spring of 1887, according to a report in the Montgomery County Sentinel.

Naval Officer Henry Reiche and his wife purchased the cottage and lot for \$2,400 in early 1890 <sup>4/</sup> and soon expanded the structure to eleven rooms. The Sentinel noted the award of the contract for construction of the addition and in June, 1890 reported that "W.R. Pumphrey is completing the addition to Emily Reiche's residence in the west end." The improvement appears on the Tax Records of 1891, raising the value of the land and house by \$700. Mr. Reiche retired from the Navy due to ill health and died in 1903 at age 45; Mrs. Reiche then sold the house to Clara Finley for \$3,500 in 1905.<sup>5/</sup> The house was later owned by the Beards (owners of the Wootton estate of 153 acres.)

The Thomas N. Bailey family occupied the house between 1917-1926, but following the tragic drowning of Josephine Stonestreet Bailey in the kitchen well, the Stonestreets assumed ownership for the next 20 years.

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The Reiche Cottage  
Attachment 8.1

Mr. and Mrs. John Garnett Stone, descendants of two long-time County families, rented the property in 1942. Upon the retirement of Mr. Stone in 1959 they returned to Rockville and purchased the house and double lot.6/ Mrs. Stone still owns and occupies the house, and although modern development has surrounded the property, some of the chestnut trees from the original grove remain.

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Footnotes:

1. See Site "Williams Farmhouse", Survey No. M:28/10/37
2. Montgomery County Land Records JA 3/ 1 (1886)
3. Op. Cit., JA 4/ 377 (1887)
4. Op. Cit., JA 19/80 (1890). Ricketts reserved 1 acre for use of Christie Ricketts, but later deeds still referred to subject property as 4 acres and 4 perches.
5. Op. Cit 184/457, also Montgomery County Sentinel September 18, 1903 and December 15, 1905.
6. Interview with Mrs. Helen Stone, March 1985.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Sentinel ; Interview with Mrs. Stone  
Montgomery County Land, Equity, and Tax Records.  
Maps and Atlases : 1865, 1879, 1917, 1931.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 15,498 square feet

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Bordered on the north by West Montgomery Avenue, on the south by Brent Road and on the west by Adclare Road.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Anne W. Cissel / Dwayne Jones, Architectural Description		
organization	Peerless Rockville	date	March 1985
street & number	P.O. Box 4262	telephone	762-0096
city or town	Rockville	state	Maryland 20850

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
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21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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NW Facade

6/85

# 2872

m: 26/10/56

06PS-15-9





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#182

M.

26/10/56